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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	09/900,503
				Filing Date	July 6, 2001
				Confirmation Number	5237
				First Named Inventor	Hu et al.
				Group Art Unit	3732
				Examiner Name	Jeffery A. Smith
Sheet	1	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	GUID-012CON

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials'	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Documents		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials'	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Documents		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY
		Office ³	Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)		
J		B1	473,451	French	6/15/14
A		B2	168,216	Great Britian	9/1/21
		B3	GB 2 267 827	United Kingdom	12/22/93
		B4	WO 97/32514 A2	PCT	9/12/97
		B5	EP 0 803 228 A1	EP	10/29/97
		B6	WO 97/40752	PCT	11/6/97
		B7	WO 98/27869	PCT	7/2/98
		B8	WO 99/09892	PCT	3/4/99
		B9	WO 99/16367	PCT	4/8/99
J		B10	WO 00/10466	PCT	3/2/00

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OTHER PRIOR ART—NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.			T ²
J	B1	Ancalmo, N. and J.L. Ochsner: "A Modified Sternal Retractor," Ann. Thorac. Surg. 21 (1976) 174			
J	B2	Angelini, G.D., M.D. et al., "A Fiber-Optic Retractor for Harvesting the Internal Mammary Artery," Ann. Thorac. Surg. (1990; 50:314-5)			
Examiner Signature	<i>[Signature]</i>			Date Considered	3-10-03

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)			Complete if Known	
			Application Number	09/900,503
			Filing Date	July 6, 2001
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			Group Art Unit	3732
			Examiner Name	Jeffery A. Smith
Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket Number
GUID-012CON				

<i>[Signature]</i>	B3	Antinori, C. et al., "A Method of Retraction During Reoperative Coronary Operations Using the Favaloro Retractor," The Society of Thoracic Surgeons: 1989	
<i>[Signature]</i>	B4	Beg, R.A.H. Naraghipour, E.B. Kay and P. Rullo, "Internal Mammary Retractor," Ann Thorac. Surg. 39 (1985) 286-287	
	B5	Campalani, G., M.D., et al., "A New Self-Retaining Internal Mammary Artery Retractor," J. Cardiovasc. Surg. 28, 1987	
	B6	Chaux, A. and C. Blanche, "A New Concept in Sternal Retraction: Applications for Internal Mammary Artery Dissection and Valve Replacement," Ann. Thorac. Surg. 42 (1986) 473-474	
	B7	Delacroix-Chevalier Surgical Instruments, IMA Saving Packages Brochure	
	B8	Guzman, F. M.D., "Transient Radial Nerve Injury Related to the Use of A Self Retaining Retractor for Internal Mammary Artery Dissection," J. Cardiovasc Surg. 30, 1989, pgs. 1015-16	
	B9	Itoh, Toshiaki, M.D., et al., "New Modification of a Mammary Artery Retractor," Ann. Thorac. Surg. 9 (1994);57:1670-1	
	B10	McKeown, P.P. et al., "A Modified Sternal Retractor for Exposure of the Internal Mammary Artery," Ann. Thorac. Surg. 32 (1981) 619	
	B11	Phillips, Steven J., M.D. et al., "A Versatile Retractor for Use in Harvesting the Internal Mammary Artery and Performing Standard Cardiac Operations," J. Thorac. Cardiovasc. Surg. (1989; 97:633-5)	
	B12	Pilling Surgical Instruments, A Rusch International Company Brochure	
	B13	Pittman, John, M.D., et al., "Improved Visualization of the Internal Mammary Artery with a New Retractor System," Ann. Thorac. Surg., 1989; 48:869-70	
	B14	Roux, D., M.D. et al., "Internal Mammary Artery Dissection: A Three-dimensional Sternal Retractor": J. Cardiovasc. Surg. 1989; 30:996-7	
	B15	USSC Cardiovascular Thora-Lift™, United States Surgical Corporation, Norwalk, Connecticut, Product Brochure	
<i>[Signature]</i>	B16	Vincent, J.G., "A Compact Single Post Internal Mammary Artery Dissection Retractor," Eur. J. Cardio-Thor. Surg. 3(1989) 276-277	
<i>[Signature]</i>	B17	Provisional Application No. 60/117,333 filed January 24, 1999.	

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Examiner Signature	<i>[Signature]</i>	Date Considered	3-10-03
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